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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,977	09/26/2003	Bennett Marks	042933/267064	4050

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EXAMINER	
BATES, KEVIN T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2153	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/12/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/672,977	MARKS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	KEVIN BATES	2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 February 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,4-8,11-15,18-22 and 25-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,4-8,11-15,18-22, and 25-32* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on February 27, 2008.

Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29-32 have currently been amended.

Claims 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, and 23-24 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 4-8, 11-15, 18-22, and 25-32 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 4-5, 7-8, 11-12, 14-15, 18-19, 21-22, 25-26, and 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen (WO 99/56431) (Applicant's IDS) in view of Chuah (6839339).

Regarding claims 1, 8, 15, and 22, Hansen teaches a method comprising:

receiving a resource request for the resource at a network entity, the resource request including a group header identifier (Page 15, lines 1 – 3);

identifying at least one header field associated with the group header identifier at the network entity (Page 15, lines 3 – 6); and

processing the resource request in accordance with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier (Page 14, lines 9 – 16), wherein before receiving the resource request for the resource, the method comprises:

associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier (Page 6, lines 25 – 27), wherein associating the at least one header field with the group header identifier comprises:

receiving an earlier request at the network entity from a terminal, the earlier request including at least one header field for associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier (Page 10, line 29 – Page 11, line 2);

associating the at least one header field with a group header identifier (Page 6, lines 25 – 27); and

sending the group header identifier to the terminal (Page 6, lines 27 – 29).

Hansen does not explicitly indicate a call to associate a header with an identifier;

wherein the network entity is otherwise configured, in instances in which a resource request is received without a group header identifier or call, to process the resource request independent of any group header identifier or without associating any header field with any group header identifier.

Chuah teaches a call to associate a header with an identifier;

wherein the network entity is otherwise configured, in instances in which a resource request is received without a group header identifier or call, to process the resource request independent of any group header identifier or without associating any header field with any group header identifier (Column 4, line 24 – Column 5, line 13;

where Chuah teaches that header compression is first negotiated between the network nodes and the full GTP header is sent along the path and each network entity stores the full version of the header. The call is the packet asking for compression to be negotiated and if there is no call for that negotiation then the full packet headers are sent normally along the network.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Chuah's teaching of sending a message to start header compression to allow the sender node to actively attempt to start up header compression for sessions that will need it and not perform header compression for each packet.

Regarding claims 5, 12, 19, and 26, Hansen teaches a method according to claims 1, 8, 15, and 22, wherein the network entity comprises an origin server, and wherein processing the resource request comprises processing the resource request at the origin server (Page 5, lines 13 – 24).

Regarding claims 7, 14, 21, and 28, Hansen teaches a method according to claims 1, 8, 15, and 22, further comprising: sending the resource request for the resource to the network entity from a terminal before receiving the resource request, wherein sending the resource request comprises sending the resource request to the network entity at least partially over a wireless link (Page 5, lines 13 – 15).

Regarding claims 4, 11, 18, and 25, Hansen teaches a method according to claims 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Hansen does not explicitly indicate receiving a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and an alternative at least one header field; and overwriting the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier to thereby associate the alternative at least one header field with the group header identifier.

Chuah a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including a compressed header and an alternative at least one header field; and overwriting the at least one header field associated with the compressed header to thereby associate the alternative at least one header field with the compressed header (Column 5, lines 24 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Chuah's teaching of updating the header information to be put into packets in Hansen's system in order to allow changes to occur to the connection without having to tear down and restart the connection.

Regarding claims 29-31, Hansen teaches a method according to claims 1, 8, and 15.

Hensen does not explicitly indicate wherein associating the at least one header field comprises associated the at least one header field and at least one respective value with the group header identifier, and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including the group header identifier and at least one associated header field with an alternative at least one respective value; and

overwriting the at least one value of the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier to thereby associate the at least one header field and the alternative at least one respective value with the group header identifier.

Chuah a subsequent request at the network entity from the terminal after sending the group header identifier to the terminal, the subsequent request including a compressed header and an alternative at least one header field; and overwriting the at least one header field associated with the compressed header to thereby associate the alternative at least one header field with the compressed header (Column 5, lines 24 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Chuah's teaching of updating the header information to be put into packets in Hansen's system in order to allow changes to occur to the connection without having to tear down and restart the connection.

Claims 6, 13, 20, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen in view of Chuah, and in further view of Chapman (6438123).

Regarding claims 6, 13, 20, and 27, Hansen teaches a method according to claims 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Hansen does not explicitly indicate wherein the network entity comprises a gateway, wherein the method further comprises: substituting the group header identifier in the resource request with the at least one header field associated with the group header identifier after identifying the at least one header field; and sending the resource request including the substituted at least one header field to an origin server, and wherein processing the resource request comprises processing the resource request at the origin server.

Chapman teaches a system for suppressing packet headers through part of the network then restoring them at the end of the network (Column 6, lines 16 – 19). It identifies the stored packet headers by an index number (Column 6, line 65 – Column 7, line 6). Once the packet is restored it is passed to the network like a normal packet (Column 7, lines 9 – 11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Chapman's teaching of re-adding header information to the packets to allow the packet to be handled like a normal packet for the rest of the network in Hansen so that the header suppression is only used across the low bandwidth part of the network and handled like a normal packet in the rest of the network.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, and 29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN BATES whose telephone number is (571)272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on (571) 272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kevin Bates/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2153